

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 122190
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY OSD:AMB.KOMER:MEM
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY
OSD:COL.MCINERNY
EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE

-----088198 130027Z /73

O P 122224Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
USNMR SH/PE BELGIUM PRIORITY
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122190

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM

REF: STATE 121036 DTG 120013Z MAY 78

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECDEF BROWN TO
DEFENSE MINISTER DANSON. THE TEXT, WHICH IS BASED ON
SECDEF'S ROUND ROBIN LETTER TO OTHER NATO DEFENSE
MINISTERS (REFTEL), IS ADAPTED TO CANADIAN SITUATION IN
LIGHT OF OUR REPRESENTATIONS LAST WEEK TO OTTAWA CONCERN-
ING CANADA'S ALTERNATIVE LTDP REPORT.

BEGIN TEXT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 122190

DEAR BARNEY: I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO PASS THE FOLLOWING
MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN TO YOU: QUOTE.

DEAR MR. MINISTER: SINCE WE LAST TALKED, I THINK WE HAVE
ALL MADE GOOD PROGRESS ON THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM.

I BELIEVE OUR ASSOCIATES NOW HAVE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING THAT APPROVING THE LTDP DOES NOT ENTAIL SIGNING ANY BLANK CHECKS. IT CALLS FOR GENERAL COMMITMENTS TO COOPERATE IN BROADLY SPECIFIED PROGRAMS OVER THE NEXT 10 TO 15 YEARS,

COMMITMENTS WHICH WILL NECESSARILY BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER COST ANALYSIS, BLENDING OF PROGRAMS, AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES, AND THE LIKE. IN SOME CASES, PROGRAMS WOULD NOT EVEN BEGIN UNTIL THE MID-80'S. I BELIEVE THAT THE GREAT BULK OF THE PROGRAMS CAN BE FUNDED WITHIN THE 3 PERCENT REAL ANNUAL GROWTH IN DEFENSE SPENDING -- IF WE ASSIGN IT THE NECESSARY PRIORITY.

IN THIS REGARD, I HOPE CANADA WILL JOIN WITH US IN REAFFIRMING THE 3 PERCENT REAL ANNUAL GROWTH COMMITMENT. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, YOU WILL BE SHOWING LESS GROWTH IN THE 1978-79 FISCAL YEAR, BUT WILL CATCH UP IN THE SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEAR. ALTHOUGH AS A MATTER OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL REALITY FEW IF ANY OF US CAN DO MORE, I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT PROVISION BY EACH ALLY OF AN AVERAGE 3 PERCENT MORE RESOURCES FOR DEFENSE EACH YEAR IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR COLLECTIVE SAFETY. WE HAVE SOLID INDICATIONS THAT MOST OF THE ALLIES ARE ON BOARD; INDEED, AT THIS MOMENT ONLY PORTUGAL -- A SPECIAL CASE -- APPEARS UNABLE TO GO ALONG.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 122190

YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IS ALSO VERY IMPORTANT TO GETTING AGREEMENT TO A PROPER FOLLOW-THROUGH MECHANISM. CLEARLY, WE MUST AVOID THE PROBLEM WE HAVE HAD WITH PREVIOUS COLLECTIVE ENDEAVORS, SUCH AS THE AD-70 REPORT, WHICH WERE HANDSOMELY ENDORSED BUT THEN LARGELY IGNORED. TO THIS END, THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED THAT THE LTDP REPORT CALL FOR STRONGER FOLLOW-THROUGH MACHINERY IN SEVERAL KEY RESPECTS. I FIND THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE REMAINING ISSUES ON WHICH WE DISAGREE WITH OUR ALLIES REALLY RELATE TO STRENGTHENING NATO MACHINERY FOR THIS PURPOSE.

I BELIEVE THAT WE AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL ARE IN THE BEST POSITION TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR SUCH MEASURES. SINCE AIR DEFENSE, C3, ELECTRONIC WARFARE, AND MARITIME FORCES PROGRAMS ARE MOST IN NEED OF PROGRAM COORDINATORS, SACEUR WOULD BE THE MOST APPROPRIATE COORDINATOR FOR THE FIRST THREE WHILE SACLANT WOULD HAVE THE LAST. WE SHOULD SET UP A JOINT LOGISTICS COORDINATING COMMAND IN AFCEANT. ALSO, WE BADLY NEED A FOCAL POINT FOR LOGISTICS AT THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL (ASYG) LEVEL. THE ASYG FOR SUPPORT JUST CANNOT HANDLE THE

WHOLE ARMAMENTS AREA ALONG WITH ALL HIS OTHER PRESENT
TASKS AND AT THE SAME TIME DO JUSTICE TO THE NEW AREA
OF CONSUMER LOGISTICS AS WELL. THEREFORE, WE WOULD
LIKE TO SEE A NEW ASYG FOR LOGISTICS GIVEN AT LEAST

INITIAL ENDORSEMENT, WITH THE DETAILS OF THIS NEW
FUNCTION WORKED OUT LATER BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL
AND PERMREPS. NONE OF THESE MEASURES ENTAILS LARGE
ADDED FUNDING.

I MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN BRUSSELS.
SINCERELY, HAROLD BROWN. UNQUOTE.

SINCERELY, THOMAS OSTROM ENDERS. END TEXT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 122190

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, MILITARY PLANS, REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE122190
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AMB.KOMER:MEM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780203-0073
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780562/aaaacawa.tel
Line Count: 138
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3d27969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 121036
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2702336
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3d27969f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014